



In the areas shaded green in the map, you must destroy all ragwort or pink ragwort on your property within 25 metres inside your property boundary.

All pest plants are banned from being sold, propagated or distributed.

HOW TO DESTROY RAGWORT:

Grubbing or mowing is not recommended as ragwort will grow from root fragments. Hand pulling plants is useful in small infestations but must be done before the plants set seed and any flower heads must be destroyed by burning to prevent the seeds from ripening. Sheep are useful in grazing to control ragwort, but this method does not kill the plants which will still regrow.

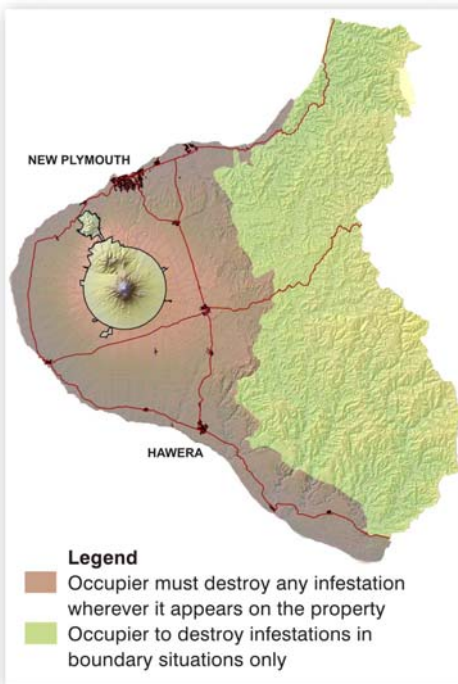
Use a herbicide. Using herbicides to control ragwort is very effective if the correct timing and rates of application are used. Always follow the manufacturer's directions on the product label and avoid spraying if it will rain before the spray is rain-fast. The rain-fast times for herbicides vary widely by up to five hours so it pays to check, rather than waste spray.

Timing of spray programme

Most ragwort seeds germinate in autumn so begin control soon after that. In mid-late autumn, spot spray any large rosettes and multi-crown plants. Sprayed ragwort may become more palatable to stock so all stock should be removed until the plants die. Follow spot-spraying with boom or rose spraying to control widespread ragwort seedlings. Boom-spraying should only be done when clover is dormant or when the pasture is well grazed out to minimised damage to clover and other desirable plants.

In spring and early summer, spot spray any missed rosettes and multi-crowns.

A good farm management system is where weeds in each paddock are sprayed immediately after stock have grazed the pasture out. This tends to work much



DESCRIPTION: RAGWORT (*Senecio jacobaea*)

Ragwort is an erect, biennial or perennial, toxic herb, about 30 – 120 cm tall, with clusters of yellow flowers.

OTHER NAMES:

Saint James Wort, Tansy ragwort.

VALUES AT RISK:

Agricultural production, through competition with pasture. It is also toxic to cows and horses.

DESCRIPTION: PINK RAGWORT (*Senecio glastifolius*)

Pink ragwort is a herbaceous perennial, toxic herb. The flowers are purplish-pink with a yellow centre. The plant flowers from August to December and can grow up to 1.5 m tall.

VALUES AT RISK:

Agricultural production, through competition with pasture.

STRATEGY RULE:

In the areas shaded red in the map, you must destroy any ragwort or pink ragwort on your property.

For further advice or information about pest plant management contact:

TARANAKI REGIONAL COUNCIL
Pest Plant Management Section
Private Bag 713, Stratford
Ph: 06 765 7127 or 0800 736 222
Fax: 06 765 5097 www.trc.govt.nz

better than systems or lack of any system, where the ragwort is ignored until late in the season when it is often a race to get the weeds controlled before seeding and where weather can play havoc with an intended late control programme.

Guidance for using metsulfuron (eg *Escort*, *Meturon*, *Zeal*)

- Best results for controlling ragwort with metsulfuron are achieved when the plant is actively growing, particularly around January, and up to and including flowering (this herbicide kills the seed when applied to flowering plants).
- If using a handgun – mix 2.5 to 5 gm of metsulfuron per 100 L of water.
- If using a knapsack – mix 1 gm of metsulfuron with 10 L of water.
- Spray application of the entire plant is not critical – direct the spray to the centre of the plant only.
- These products must be under the care of an approved handler when used in a wide dispersive manner, or applied by a commercial contractor.

Guidance for using aminopyralid

(eg *Tordon Max*)

- Best results for controlling ragwort with aminopyralid are achieved when the plant is actively growing, although the chemical can be used all year round.
- If using a handgun – mix 200 ml of aminopyralid per 100 L of water. Lower rates can be applied to rosettes, but higher rates should be applied to multi-crowns or flowering Ragwort, or during autumn and winter.
- If using a knapsack – mix 60 ml of aminopyralid to 10 L of water.
- If using a carpet wiper – mix 1 part of aminopyralid to 20 parts water.
- If using a wick wiper – mix 1 part of aminopyralid to 1 part water.
- Apply evenly over the top of the plant.
- This product must be under the care of an approved handler when applied in a wide dispersive manner, or used by a commercial contractor. Records of use must be kept if more than 1 L of aminopyralid is applied, or discharged within 24 hours in a place where members of the public may be present or where the substance may enter air or water and leave the place.

Guidance for using granular picloram

(eg *Tordon 2G*)

- Best results using picloram are achieved when Ragwort is actively growing, although the chemical can be used all year round.
- Crush the centre of the plant.
- Apply half a level teaspoon of picloram to the crushed centre of a plant.
- This herbicide can have a long residual activity in the soil, so use with care.
- This product must be under the care of an approved handler during use. Records of use must be kept if more than 3 kg is applied or discharged within 24 hours.

Guidance for using 2,4-D Ethylhexyl ester

(eg *Pasture Kleen* or *Relay*)

- 2,4-D Ethylhexyl ester will control seedling ragwort up to the rosette stage. The herbicide does not control multi-crowned ragwort
- If broadcast spraying – mix 2.5 - 4 L of 2,4-D Ethylhexyl ester per hectare. Higher rates should be applied to seedling ragwort, or during autumn and winter.
- This product must be under the personal control of an approved handler when applied in a wide dispersive manner; or used by a commercial contractor. Records of use must be kept when: a member of the public may lawfully be present, the substance is likely to enter air or water and leave the place or if 3 kg or more of the chemical is applied.

Guidance for using glyphosate

- Best results using glyphosate are achieved in spring through to summer.
- If applying aurally or by boom application – mix 4.5 L of glyphosate with 100 L of water.
- If using a handgun – mix 750 ml of glyphosate with 100 L of water.
- If using a knapsack – mix 75 ml of glyphosate with 10 L of water.
- Spray the plant to give complete and uniform coverage.
- Follow mixing instructions carefully as concentrations of glyphosate vary in the different formulations of this herbicide.
- This product must be under the control of an approved handler when applied onto or into water. Records of use must be kept when applied onto or into water.

The Taranaki Regional Council accepts no responsibility for any error or omission in these pages, nor for the use or misuse of any herbicide product. Users must observe safe practice guidelines and any directions on the product label. If in doubt, contact the product supplier for advice

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